

Smoke Signals

The Student Newspaper of Chowan College

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Smoke Signals is published monthly during the school year, September through April, by the Graphic Communications Department of Chowan College. It is written and edited by Chowan students and emphasizes information for the students of Chowan College. All letters to the Editor must be signed and addressed to: The Editor, Smoke Signals, Campus Mail Room, Chowan College, Murfreesboro, N.C. 27855.

The Smoke Signals Staff

welcomes your comments, suggestions,
 and contributions.

If you have something to send in,
 simply address it to:

Smoke Signals,

Box 90

and drop it in the campus mail box

inside the

Braves Den.

A Farewell from the Editor



Marty Grebing
 Editor

Well, here we are- the last issue of Smoke Signals under my command. I must say it has been interesting, and even enjoyable at times. I really hate to leave the paper like this, but circumstances beyond my control (mainly laziness) have prevented me from accepting the position of editor for one more semester. I need to take it easy this spring so I can round up my Associates with no sweat.

I believe I'm leaving on a good note, though. I've always wanted to put out more than a little 4-page issue, and by golly we did it. Thanks to our new wonderful staff and an underappreciated printing department an 8 page Smoke Signals was possible. Be sure to tell them how you feel about this issue - they worked hard for it.

Like I said, it's a tearful good-bye, but with all the new faces working on the paper, not to mention our new sponsor, I'm sure I'll be leaving you in good hands. There are some great new ideas floating around and I think the paper will go in wild and fantastic directions next semester.

Normally a fiery, no-holds-barred, one-sided, biased editorial, written by yours truly, would follow in these spaces. However, this last one appears to be too hot to handle, so I willingly cut it from the lineup. However, it will still be available upon request to those who wish to see it, but I will ask that it not be made public.

For my last words, I gleefully leave you with a few choice thoughts from the new Big Cheese. I hope you will give him as much attention as I received. With that I bid you farewell (gee, I feel like Johnny Carson. Except taller).

A Letter from the New Editor

Welcome to your school newspaper. My name is Lee Seabolt and I will be taking over the job of editor for next semester. First I'd like to say thank you to all those who have contributed to our paper in the past. I hope that you will continue to work with us to make this paper the best it has ever been.

Now for some quick notes about your new newspaper format. This spring our paper will be taking on an entirely new look. I would appreciate your patience, but most of all your honest feedback, as we go through the trials of forging a new path.

This spring's paper will include some new columns, but most importantly, it will have a new purpose. That purpose will be to keep you the student informed of happenings around campus, in our community, in our country, and around the world, as well as to better serve and entertain you. This is your newspaper and I want to know, every step of the way, what interests you. Any input you have may be addressed to the Smoke Signals Box 90. If we all work together, I know we can make this an award winning paper that is not only important to have, but fun to read.

There, now that my short soapbox stint is completed on to more exciting news. First, there is still a lot of room for new reporters, cartoonists, ad sellers, layout artists, and photographers. One thing I've noticed about our staff, which is no fault of anyone, is that it is very suburban, white middle class. We have no minority reporters or photographers whatsoever. This concerns me for the simple reason that to represent all of the school in the newspaper, it's best to have staff members from every background. The last thing I want to do is sell anyone's interests short. So please, if you think you have something to say, say it. Our voices have been held in for far too long. From this point forward we need to look at our college community and constructively address its problems. We can, no we will, make a difference.

Now for some lighter news. Our paper will from this point forward contain no less than nine featured columns: a new movie review, Letters to the Editor, a featured cartoon strip, new video picks, a current events brief, new music exclusives, a club news column, a faculty and student profile, and a student voices section. These in addition to sports reporting, hard news reporting, action photography, crossword puzzles, coming events calendars, great artwork, and much more, should combine to give us the best paper we have ever had at Chowan College.

I look forward to working with and hearing from all of you and I thank you for this opportunity to serve our college community.

Your new editor,
 Lee C. Seabolt

The Bass-ics of Rock-n-Roll

By Jim Marriott

I've decided to take this time to talk about a little thing called Rock-n-Roll. As I tread the halls and sidewalks of this great institution, I can't help but notice that a lot of the cars here contain extraordinary sound systems. You've all heard them, they cruise along pumping out enough bass to shatter windows. But what ever happened to treble?

Now I appreciate bass as much as the next guy, I just happen to think it's not the be-all and end-all of music. There was a time when bass was used to help the rest of the band keep beat. The beat was a starting place for musicians. From here the front man, usually a singer or guitarist, would take off and make the magic that is music.

The trend toward bass, and I'm not talking about just rap here- the metal scene is infected too, has cost modern music. The focus on rhythm rather than melody seems to indicate a lack of creative talent in today's artists. It has become out of fashion to try new sounds. In the past music has been an ever changing force.

In the Sixties there were three

very different variations of contemporary music: soul, folk rock, and early heavy metal. The Seventies saw the rise of southern rock, disco and early progressive. The Eighties gave birth to the urban sounds of rap and techno, as well as the merger of metal with mainstream rock. The Nineties have yet to find anything new. All this decade has managed to do is bring back the styles of the past and add a strong bass beat.

Take for instance Melissa Ethridge, great performer and songwriter, but she's another Joan Baez or Janis Joplin with a kickin' rhythm section. Another good example is Metallica- Black Sabbath on bass steroids. Like the Black Crowes, try Lynard Skynard with fewer guitars and more bass. You may want to try this test on your favorite new band: turn down the bass and crank up the treble and see if they don't sound a whole lot like someone from your musical past.

This trend has been a long time coming and it won't stop over night, but I'm sure that the Nineties will produce a new sound for Rock-n-Roll. It's just like the old song says, "Rock-n-Roll will never die."

Reggae in Murfreesboro

By Jeremy Rodgers

On November 5th, one Thursday night at eight o'clock, Chowan College was visited by a reggae band by the name of, "Moving Parts." It was definitely a night with mixed emotions.

The band played in the "Braves Den." (The previous outdoor location was canceled due to the rain. "Moving Parts" is made up of four people who blended together to create a very clean, quinessentially reggae sound. They were heard deep into the night playing originals and covers varying from, "The Dead," to Ziggy Marley. They showed all the frills necessary to constitute a good reggae band; swaying dreadlocks and a deep laid back groove.

The sad part is that there were not many people to support and appreciate this gathering of talent. I feel that I can sympathize on account of once participating in a

hard core band that had to play in front of a preppy crowd. The turnout and reactions of the audience were much less than the band deserved. I had to ask myself what caused this pathetic turnout. Perhaps it was the rain, or the change in location- if only the ones that did come weren't so scared and bewildered to see a band much unlike Garth Brooks, or maybe they just had to work, "The Night Shift." Well, let's not be too hard on the student republic of Murfreesboro... it had to be the rain.

Once the fashionably late showed up, the night was in full swing, or as full swing you can get with a handful of people. Those who were young and limber enough to get into this music will agree to having a good time. But in essence the night ended disappointedly; the people returned to their rooms to listen to country, the band left playing the blues.

Current Events

- The United States elects Bill Clinton as the next President after twelve years of Republican White House rule. Clinton took 43% of the popular vote and 357 electoral college votes. Current President, George Bush, took 38% and 168 electoral college votes while H. Ross Perot managed 19% of the popular vote but no electoral votes.
- Professed homosexual Keith Meinhold was reinstated to the U. S. Navy by court order on November 10, 1992. This marks the first time an openly homosexual service member was reinstated to active duty.
- Oakland Athletics pitcher Dennis Eckersley became the first relief pitcher in eight years to receive the American League's Cy Young Award on November 11, 1992.
- Russian president Boris Yeltsin took another step towards democratization by allowing citizens to possess theft deterrents such as legalized tear gasses and hunting rifles. This represents the first time in 75 years that the Russian people have had the right to bear arms.

—By Lee C. Seabolt



Tornado strikes

A tornado touched down in the Roanoke-Chowan area causing untold damage to house, trees, and trailer. One witness claimed that a tree sliced one-fourth of a brand new trailer completely off. Here, a hint of nature's destructive force is evident as a garage was literally ripped from its foundation and smashed into the ground.

—Photo by Joanie Hanson

